



FIRE PROTECTION TRAINING

Procedures Handbook 4300

POWER TOOLS

TOPIC: HOW TO START A CHAIN SAW - BETWEEN THE LEGS METHOD

TIME FRAME: 0:30

LEVEL OF INSTRUCTION: Level II

BEHAVIORAL OBJECTIVE:

Condition: A chain saw, chain saw chaps (wildland operations), appropriate material to cut, and appropriate personal protective equipment per CAL FIRE policy

Behavior: The student will demonstrate how to operate a chain saw while wearing appropriate personal protective equipment

Standard: Complete all operations according to the job breakdown

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Job breakdown
- Chain saw – working and maintained
- Chainsaw Chaps (wildland operations)
- Appropriate personal protective equipment
- Dolmar with proper fuel mix, bar oil, scrench, and extra chains

REFERENCES:

- Essentials of Firefighting, IFSTA, Fifth Edition, Chapter 9
- S-212 Wildland Fire Chain Saws, NWCG
- Appropriate Manufacturer Specific User Guide

PREPARATION: Chain saws in the fire service have become an integral part of the job today. They are used in line construction, ventilation, and heavy rescue applications. The ability to safely and competently use a chain saw could make the difference between a successful operation, or an operation that fails and is prone to serious safety risks.



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OPERATIONS	KEY POINTS
1. Push chain brake lever	1a. Forward b. Engaging brake
2. Grasp handle bar	2a. Firmly b. With left hand c. Thumb wrapped around handle bar
3. Place saw	3a. Clear of bystanders b. Pistol grip between legs mid thigh
4. Move stop switch	4a. With Right hand b. To "On" position
5. Engage choke	5a. With Right hand
6. Set throttle latch	6a. To "On" position
7. Grasp starter rope handle	7a. Firmly
8. Engage starter rope	8a. Pull b. Until starter mechanism engages
9. Pull starter rope	9a. Short, sharp pull
10. Hold starter handle	10a. As the rope retracts b. Until engine fires (pops) c. <u>Never drop start a saw</u>
11. Disengage choke	11a. Move lever or switch
12. Pull starter rope	12a. Short, sharp pulls b. Until engine starts



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OPERATIONS		KEY POINTS	
13.	Grip saw	13a.	Firmly
		b.	With both hands
		c.	Thumbs and fingers encircling the handles
14.	Pull chain brake lever	14a.	Back
		b.	Until brake is free
15.	Throttle engine	15a.	Briefly
		b.	Finger on throttle trigger
16.	Release throttle trigger	16a.	Returning engine to idle
17.	Observe chain	17a.	For movement
		b.	Should be no chain movement at idle
18.	Push chain brake lever	18a.	Forward
		b.	Engaging brake
19.	Check chain brake	19a.	Finger on throttle
		b.	Checking chain for no movement
20.	Check throttle trigger lockout	20a.	For obstacles
		b.	For proper functioning
		c.	For free movement
21.	Warm up saw	21a.	To manufacturers specifications



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APPLICATION:

The student will practice performing the operations in the job breakdown while under supervision.

EVALUATION:

The student will complete a manipulative performance exam at a time determined by the instructor.

ASSIGNMENT:

Practice this job in order to prepare yourself for the upcoming performance exam. Study for our next session.